



Friends for Street Children Association

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Yeu thuong

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"Yeu thuong" means "love" in Vietnamese. We often use this word at FFSC wishing that children grow up with abundant love.



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PREFACE

September has ended a summer and the days of relaxation because of the Covid-19 epidemic, the gate of the beloved school has opened the footsteps of the pupils back to start a new school year. Meet your friends, continue meaningful lessons and mischievous games, adorable star age.

The centers of the Friends For Street Children are ready for a new school year 2020-2021 with many learning and play plans.

From the first day of the school year, teachers always remind students to take care of their class, to be aware of health and hygiene as directed by the Ministry of Health to prevent the outbreak of disease again.

Besides the classroom program, students also learn life skills courses, experienced through fun activities. In the Mid-Autumn festival season, the children took part in a procession of lights and lion dances bearing the national culture.

On behalf of all the staff, teachers and 1200 students who are studying at the centers, I would like to thank you for your cooperation with the program over the past school year. We wish you to continue to join hands with us in the care and education of poor children, helping them to have the conditions to study and advance in life.

We wish you good health and success. Dear students, we wish you a new school year with many interesting lessons.

FFSC Executive Director

Le Thi Thao

Let's join hands for children's future

Activities

CLOSING CEREMONY AND THANKSGIVING CEREMONY



On the morning of July 24, 2020, Binh Tho Development Center held an End of School Year Ceremony for the school year 2019-2020 for 86 students. Attending the ceremony, in addition to the teachers and students of the center, there were Soeur Le Thi Thao, Program Manager, Mr. David Kennedy, Director of Premier Oil Company and 7 employees, 2 teachers who volunteered to teach English and Japanese, Mr. Vinh representing Koikeya company.

Soeur Vu Thi Khuong reports the academic results of the students. Due to the impact of COVID - 19 epidemic, the activities of the center have changed a lot, the second

semester of the school year must last until July 24, 2020. However, the center still fulfills the curriculum of students.

In terms of health, children were given deworming medicine and were instructed on how to keep it clean to avoid diseases. The center has praised and awarded students with good academic achievements, who have actively participated in the center's arts and recreation activities. A fifth-grade student expressed gratitude to the center's nuns, teachers, and benefactors.



Mr. David, Director of Premier Oil Company, welcomed the students and reminded them that they should always try to study well. The company gave each child a gift, which was a set of comic books. In addition, each student was given a school bag from PIS, Koikeya company gave them snacks.

The atmosphere of the ceremony was more exciting thanks to the students' musical performances and the entertainment activities of the staff of Premier Oil Company.

At the end of the ceremony, Soeur Khuong thanked the Sisters, teachers, volunteers, and sponsors and wished the students a healthy summer.

RING THE GOLDEN BELL COMPETITION

On July 28 and July 29, 2020, the Binh Trieu Development Center organized a Ring the Golden Bell Competition for students in grades 1-5 to help them revise and consolidate knowledge for the second term's test of the academic year 2019-2020.



The content of the Ring the Golden Bell Contest is composed of subjects such as Math, Vietnamese, History and Geography. There are also questions about life skills, which train children to react quickly and think logically.

The competition took place with excitement, the students participated actively. Currently, Binh Trieu Center has 2 classes of Grade 1, 2 classes of Grade 2, 1 class of Grade 3, 1 class of Grade 4 and 1 class of Grade 5. The total number of students at the center is 185.

After 2 rounds with about 18 to 20 questions, each class found an excellent student to ring the Golden Bell.



Activities



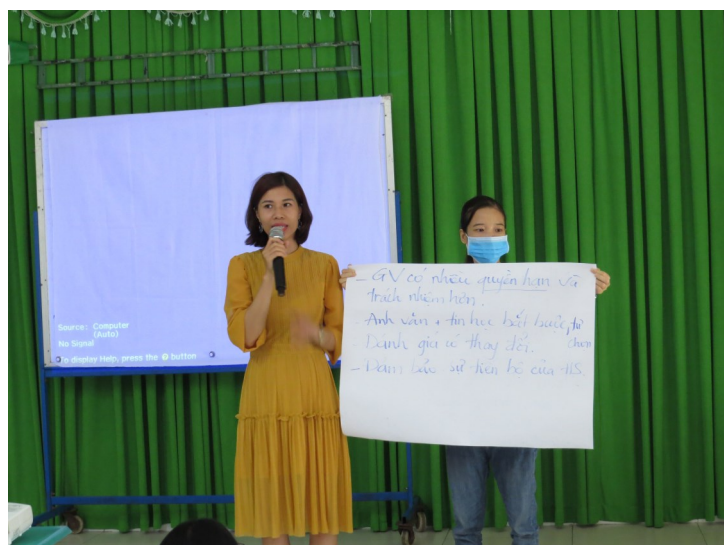
THE TRAINING ACCESS TO THE NEW FIRST GRADE PROGRAM

The training course was organized by Ms. Ta Thi Thu, Vice Principal of I Can School (ICS). Ms. Thu shared an overview of the changes and reforms to the new General Education program for Primary school age.

On August 22nd and 23rd, 2020, Friends For Street Children Association (FFSC) with the support of ASIF organized training for teachers on first-grade teaching methods through the new textbooks.

Besides, Ms. Thu also spends time with teachers to discuss and compare what changes the new program has, what are the advantages and limitations for teachers and students when approaching this program.

The new program meets the harmonious physical and mental development of children. This requires teachers to master teaching methods, how to use textbooks to effectively teach. On the student's side, they need to approach step by step, practice their skills quickly and have creative thinking autonomy.



In the school year 2020-2021, ASIF intends to have more training sessions for teachers to improve teaching methods.

BUSTLING SCHOOL OPENING DAY

On the morning of September 5th, 2020, Binh Trieu Development Center held the opening ceremony of the new school year 2020-2021 for students.

Attending the ceremony were Sister Le Thi Thao - Program Manager, The Sister-Manager of the Center, the sisters, the teachers, Mrs. Mr Fran - Phil, the parents, and more than 100 students of the center.

At the beginning of the ceremony, the students welcomed the new school year and guests attended a very lively and cute performance.



Sister Nguyen Thi Mai Thanh Xuan - Manager of the Center reported the activities of the school year 2019-2020. This is a special school year with many difficulties and worries due to the impact of the Covid – 19 epidemic. The pupils had to relax for months. However, the teachers had to make every effort to complete the curriculum.

In the efforts of teachers and students, the center rewarded and gave gifts to students who achieved good results in learning; they have actively participated in emulation movements, namely the “Ring The Golden Bell” competition held on July 28th and 29th , 2020.

Mr. Phil has been one of the central support benefactors for many years also reminding students to try their best in learning. He also thanked parents for trusting their children to come to the center. For children to study well, parents need to pay attention to encourage their children to come to school and actively study.

Due to the impact of the epidemic, Binh An and Binh Tho Centers did not hold the opening ceremony but the students returned to school fully and soon stabilized their studies.



Wish the teachers health and full of enthusiasm. Wish all students a joyful school year.

CONFERENCE "GOOD PEOPLE DO GOOD"

Commentary by The Vietnam National People's Committee in Ho Chi Minh City

On the morning of September 10, 2020, the Vietnam Catholic Solidarity Committee held the 5th National Emulation Conference "Praising good people in the Catholic community" in the period 2015-2020 at La Thanh Guest House, 226 Van Phuc, Lieu Giai Ward, Ba Dinh District, Ha Noi City.

Attending the conference was Sister Le Thi Thao, who has been in the 16 years of operating the Friends For Street Children (FFSC) under the Catholic Solidarity Committee of Ho Chi Minh City. The program has three centers: Binh Trieu, Binh Tho and Binh An with love classes for poor children with particularly difficult circumstances. Sister Bui Thi Hong Hanh, who has been operating the Binh Trieu Center for 21 years, also attended the conference. The following is a report on program activities (FFSC) over the past 5 years (2015-2020).

Ladies and gentlemen, the entire conference!

The Vietnam Catholic Solidarity Committee in Ho Chi Minh City issued Decision No. 53/QD-UB on June 23, 1999, to establish the Friends for Street Children Association to support education, training, entertainment, and care for orphans, vagrants, and disadvantaged children in Ho Chi Minh City. There are currently 7 Development Centers under the Program with a total number of employees: 13 nuns, 41 social workers, and teachers. Also, the program has the cooperation of several domestic and foreign volunteers. Some major activities:



Warm Shelter

The children in the Warm Shelter range in age from 3 to 18 years old. Since 2015, the Warm Shelter has received 9 more children and 2 children returned home, 3 graduated from High school and entered University so they left the Warm Shelter Independently, 1 graduated from vocational school but still lives. The Warm Shelter is nurturing 30 children, including 8 males and 22 females. We take the care of eating, going to school under the care of the Warm Shelter. Cost of 1 billion per year.

Organizing semi-boardings classes

Take care of 178 children from grade 1 to grade 5. The semi-boarding group comprises children from poor families in Binh Trieu Development Centers. Because of their family circumstances and their parents' working time, they are not eligible for care or guidance. Therefore, they study here for a session in the morning, have lunch at the Centers and study the other session under the guidance of the teachers/volunteers of the Centers.



Development class

There were 3,392 turns of children attending from grade 1 to grade 5, studying from Monday to Friday. There are 243 students already integrated into Primary and Secondary schools. Those who complete Primary school if they do not have sufficient legal documents will transfer to the Fostering System regularly. However, some children do not continue their studies due to family difficulties or older age.

Awarding scholarships

The Scholarship Program has 1,232 scholarships for children in Warm Shelters, students who are studying in High school, Intermediate, College, and University programs. The Scholarship Program is for children with difficult family circumstances or at risk of continuing to attend school. Through this program, the Scholarship group had 50 children who graduated from secondary school, 23 students entered the University, College and Intermediate, 59 graduated from College and University with the help of Scholarships.

Vocational training

Every year, training courses are organized for children, teachers, and staff to improve skills. Topics: teamwork skills, Family themes, Emotions, Sense of responsibility, Solidarity, Goals, Puberty, Beautiful gestures in public, Body hygiene, Honesty, Environmental protection, Oral health care, Sex education, Self-protection, Career Orientation, Social Media Use, First Aid, Helping children be confident in public, Courtesy in words and behaviors, Love and respect.

Health Care

Every year, the Friends For Street Children Association is edgy with organizations, volunteer medical delegations at home and abroad, clinics for general health check-ups, and dental care for about 3,392 children. Besides, the Program also gives gum bleach to children every 6 months.

Savings - Credit Group Organization

From the monthly scholarships for children, the Center mobilizes parents to save voluntarily each month to contribute capital to help each other do business, increase income for the family. Self-governing teams with the support and supervision checks of Center managers. In the past 5 years, the centers have had 947 parents participate in savings. The total savings of the group as of November 30, 2019, are VND 185,270,000.

Supporting poor households

During the country's fight against the COVID 19 epidemic, the Friends For Street Children Association, with donations from benefactors, provided three months of food support to 331 poor households and one month's rent to 92 households unable to pay rent. The total funding for this support is VND 505 million.

With the attention, direction, and motivation of the Vietnam Catholic Solidarity Committee in Ho Chi Minh City, the enthusiastic support of benefactors, social organizations, the program have invited the participation of longtime nuns, dynamic, enthusiastic, and with specialized training in social work. Teachers and staff, local and international volunteers with expertise have come together to take care of disadvantaged children to be promoted.

Ladies and gentlemen, all conferences!

The efforts and hands of many hearts for the poor immigrant children when studying Love classes at the Centers, to help them have the opportunity to study higher, improve, escape from poverty and help society in the future.

THE FAIRY MOON

In August full moon every year, people are seen on the street selling colorful shimmering lanterns. That image shows the upcoming Mid-Autumn festival. For poor children, getting a lantern is hard, and the sweet moon cakes are a luxury. To help them have beautiful childhood memories, every Mid-autumn festival, the students of the Friends For Street Children Association (FFSC) have been organized by the sponsors for the event and present meaningful gifts.



Binh An Development Center

On the morning of September 24th, 2020, Ms. Huynh Thi Phuong Nhi together with 5 employees of Thu Duc Vietinbank, visited Binh An Center to presented 260 gifts including the moon lanterns and candies to the students. The gift is small but gives the students a great joy to have their early the Mid-Autumn Festival. They also visited and encouraged the children to try their best to study for a bright future, helping their families and society. In return for the special gifts, Diem Hang (grade 5) representative delivered her speech to express their deep appreciation to everyone.

On the morning of September 30th, 2020, Mr. Long and a group of young people from Mau Tam Parish came to the activity and gave 260 gifts to the children. Each gift includes candies and school tools. On the same day, Mr. Luu Van Hao and 5 members of the group visited and gifted 260 moon cakes, 40 lanterns, and some notebooks and crayons

Binh Trieu Development Center

Earlier, on the morning of September 20th 2020, 10 members from the Charity Martin group of Xom Moi held a lunch of 200 parts for children at Binh Trieu Center. In the afternoon of the same day, 18 young people from the G7-Vietseeds group came to Binh Trieu Development Center to have fun with 100 children of the center. Not only playing, but young people also instruct students how to wear masks, how to wash their hands, and brush their teeth to help them protect their health. At the end of the activity, the group presented each child with a gift of 5 books, pens, and moon cakes.

“The Fairy Moon” is the theme of called the Mam Xanh consists of 45 students from Banking University held for students of Binh Trieu Development Center on the afternoon of September 24th, 2020. The group has been active in circles, performances, and singing on the theme of the Mid-Autumn festival. The most special repertoire is the dragon dance teams, there is the cute “The Earth God” and the beautiful Ms. Hang Nga. They are immersed in meaningful fairy tales, helping them to understand more about folk culture. At the end of the event, each child also received gifts such as lanterns, notebooks, pens, and candies.

On the afternoon of September 29th, 2020, Mr. Do Hung Lan- General Director and 15 employees of the “Thuyen Xua Foods” company came to Binh Trieu Center to organized Mid- Autumn for 150 children in the center. The program began with a performance named “The Mid- Autumn Night” conducted by the students of the center. Two employees members dressed up as Hang Nga and Chu Cuoi fairy tale characters, the event became more excited. Especially the fun quizzes, the children eagerly answered and received many gifts. The event also features clowns with funny and humor of magic tricks performance. To share and bring joy to the children, the company has given 150 gifts to the children including moon cakes, lanterns, pens, notebooks, and masks. The company gifted to the center 20 bottles of fish sauce, cooking oil are the main products of the company.

Binh Tho Development Center

On the morning of September 30, 2020, Ms. Kim Anh - Thu Duc Market Manager came to visit Binh Tho Center and presented them 100 moon cakes to the students.

In the Mid-Autumn Festival, with the assistance of Mr. Thomas Soi, the Friends For Street Children Association (FFSC) received gifts from benefactors: Ms. Natalia Tran (2,000,000 VND), Ms. My Hanh Nguyen (10,000 JPY ~2,185,700 VND), Ms. Uyen Nguyen (1,000,000 VND), Ms. Tu Uyen, Mr. Nguyen Dinh Thai (6000 JPY ~ 1,350,000 VND) and an anonymous benefactor (5000 [JPY](#) ~ 1,060,000 VND).

FFSC would like to express our deep thanks to the benefactor for the child. We wish you all health and success.

RELAY TO SCHOOL



On July 1st, 2020, Binh Trieu center held organized an event and on behalf of Saigon Pearl International School, presented scholarships to 19 students who are indifficult circumstances and have studied at Binh Trieu Center. Thanks to the scholarship support from Saigon Pearl, their family can cover part of the tuition fee for their children to continue their studies at public schools. This year is the second year that Saigon Pearl International School grants scholarships to the students.

On July 3rd, 2020, 18 students from Binh An center, who have achieved good academic results, were chosen to go to Canadian International School (BCIS) to attend a scholarship presentation event. Diem Hang, fourth grader, represented the whole group to express their deepest gratitude and appreciation to the school administrators and teachers for the scholarships, for the love and support they have received from the school. In addition to their words of thanks, “Thuong Lam Thay Co Oi”.



On the morning of June 8th, 2020, Ms. Quyen and her husband visited Binh An Development Centers to learn about the activities of children at the center. She has donated 7,277,450 VND to support the purchase of textbooks at the beginning of the year for students.

On the afternoon of September 14th, 2020, Mr. Nguyen Tan Dung (Tan Hiep Thanh Company - Tan Binh) and two friends visited the children of Binh An Development Center and donated 450 VND to support.

CONGRATULATIONS BINH AN CENTER

On July 20th, 2020, the Binh An Development Center was awarded the decision by the People's Committee of Ward 7, District 8 to establish and officially rename the center as the “Binh An Primary Education Institution”.



From here, students who complete the fifth-grade program in the center will be admitted to public schools to continue their sixth grade.

Sister Dang Thi Thu Hanh - the center's manager great thanks to the government for their interest, creating conditions for disadvantaged students to continue to study and become useful citizens for society.

